Robert Beers
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Introduction to the New Testament
Dr. Watkins

Paul wrote the first letter of Thessalonians and it is also the first letter the apostle wrote. It was written to a struggling church that was only a few months old made up of Christians who had just come to Jesus under Paul's ministry. It was written about 50 A.D. and could be the first part of the New Testament. Most scholars feel that the gospels were written about this same time or shortly afterward, though some hold that the gospel of Matthew, and perhaps of Mark, appeared about 43 or 45 A.D. So that would make this letter one of the earliest Christian writings. Paul ended up leaving the church due to persecution and going to Greece. I am not too sure on the climate but I would say it was a warm climate. When Paul founded the church it recorded in the seventeenth chapter of Acts, after he and Silas were thrown into prison in Philippi because they preached the Gospel, an earthquake shook and knocked down the prison doors and freed the prisoners. Paul was then freed by the Roman officials, and he left Philippi and went to Thessalonica. Many of the places where Paul preached have crumbled into ruins, but Thessalonica was still a thriving, bustling metropolis. It was then the capital of Macedonia, but now it is in Greece proper, and called Thessalonike.

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